

# Christmas

The Redeemer: Born to Redeem

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## Christmas --- The Redeemer: Born to Redeem ---

*“For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior Who is Christ the Lord”  
(Luke 2:11)*

The New Testament is explicitly clear that Jesus was born to die for the sins of His people – not as a mere helpless victim of cruelty at the hands of unjust people but as “Savior, Christ the Lord.” He was an honorable Victor in the hands of God Who came to redeem or set unjust people free from the dominion of sin. This is more than just the birth of a babe in Bethlehem. It is the decisive victory which God achieved in overcoming sin and sinners in His Son.

This setting free or deliverance of people from sin is variously known in the New Testament as “ransom, redemption, redeemed, bought.” It refers to the action of someone who “bought” or “paid the price” of slavery to sin and its dominion over their lives. The word, in its various forms and locations in the NT, is used solely or exclusively for what God Himself did in Jesus of Nazareth. By the shedding of His own blood, Jesus “bought” or paid the payment for liberating or releasing people from the dominion of sin. This was a payment which none other could ever pay.

There are numerous passages in the New Testament which portray this precious payment price with precise words:

“ransom” – Mt. 20:28; Mk. 10:45; 1 Ti. 2:6

“redemption” – Lk. 1:68; 2:38; 21:28; Ro. 3:24; 8:23; 1 Co. 1:30; Ep. 1:7, 14;  
4:30; Co. 1:14; Heb. 9:12, 15

“redeemed” – Lk. 24:21; Tit. 2:14; 1 Pt. 1:18; Rev. 5:9; 14:3, 4

“bought” – 1 Co. 6:20; 7:23; 2 Pt. 2:1

So, as we think about Christmas, let us not forget that the primary purpose of it is the celebration of Christ as our Redeemer.